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much of the information which can be gleaned from them and which might otherwise escape the investigator can be verified from the more original sources to which they point the way.

Again on page 257 he says:

No historical library is doing its full duty which fails to collect and preserve, so far as possible, all books of this sort relating to parts of the territory which it attempts to cover. As time goes on and the people and conditions with which these books deal fade away into the remote past and as the books themselves become scarce and difficult to procure, the value of such a collection will be more and more apparent.

The last section is devoted to the Territorial and State laws. This part of the bibliography has no special interest to Indiana readers after 1808, when the Illinois Territory was set off from Indiana.

The volume is very useful to Indianians since nearly all travelers who did Illinois also included Indiana in their itineraries.

Daniel Webster, by FREDERICK AUSTIN OGG, Ph. D., Associate Professor of History in Simmons College, Boston, and Author of *Social Progress in Contemporary Europe*, *The Government of Europe*, Etc. Philadelphia, George W. Jacobs & Company, pp. 433, 1914.

DANIEL WEBSTER was chosen by Dr. Oberholtzer, editor of the series called "The American Crisis Biographies" as the subject for the nineteenth volume of the series. Professor Van Tyne, of Michigan University, had intended to write the volume but was compelled to give it up. The design of the volume is to give a new, brief, popular version of the story of Webster's life. Dr. Ogg has used only the easily accessible materials contained in the *Letters of Daniel Webster* published in 1902, and the eighteen volume edition of *Webster's Writings and Speeches*. There is no pretense of any search for new material, neither is there any new interpretations offered. As a plain, straightforward chronological story it is very well done. It is an interesting story all the way from the humble beginning in the New Hampshire hills to the equally simple funeral at Marshfield. The style of the author, though at times wordy, is usually plain and dignified. There is no attempt at rhetorical display, though the subject is one which easily lends itself to that kind of writing. A list of the chief events in his life chronologically arranged takes the place of an introduction. The book is neatly

made, has a good index and sufficient foot-notes for ordinary high-school purposes. For popular use or for high-school libraries it will be a useful little volume.

Collections of the Nebraska State Historical Society, Vol. 17,
Edited by ALBERT WATKINS, Historian of the Society, Lincoln,
Nebraska, pp. 381, 1913.

There are twenty-five papers in the volume, eight of which deal with subjects local to Nebraska. There are six dealing with overland travel in the pioneer days, "A Tragedy of the Oregon Trail," by George W. Hansen; "The Oregon Recruit Expedition," by Albert Watkins; "Influence of Overland Travel on the Early Settlement of Nebraska," by H. G. Taylor; "First Steamboat Trial Trip Up the Missouri," by Albert Watkins; "Adventures on the Plains," by Dennis Farrell; "The Pathfinders," by Heman C. Smith, are some of the titles. Besides these there are several papers of a professional nature. A number of beautiful illustrations, taken chiefly from Maximilian's *Travels* add to the attractiveness of the volume.

Nebraska is very fortunate in being able to thus gather up her early, or pioneer, history from the lips of the pioneers themselves. No one who has not compared such stories as those contained in this volume with the best that historians can do can appreciate what is lost to history when the pioneers are gone.

THREE pamphlets, edited by THOMAS J. BROOKS, have lately been received by the Survey. One of these is a biography of Lewis Brooks, colonel of the Eightieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was one of the early settlers of Martin county, living first at Mount Pleasant and later at Loogootee. His experiences as a merchant and flatboatman before the war are suggestive.

Another pamphlet of sixty-one pages contains the biographies of Thomas Jefferson Brooks, 1805-1882, and his family. The family history begins in the old home in Massachusetts in 1635 and extends down to the Indiana home in 1906. The old Brooks home was in Mount Pleasant, Martin county. At this place it is the custom of the descendants of the pioneer to gather occasionally in a family reunion. The third pamphlet, seventy-six pages, contains a description of one of these reunions held August 7, 1908, at Mount Pleasant by the Brooks and Houghton descendants.

The pamphlets are full of interesting bits of pioneer history,